

REMARKS

In the Office Action, dated October 5, 2004, the Examiner states that Claims 1-3 are pending, and Claims 1-3 are rejected. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the claims.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ito et al. (US 4,778,782). The Applicant has amended Claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 2, and respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 now includes the limitation that the intermediate layer contains a white pigment and a fluorescent brightener. Ito et al. discloses a heat transferable sheet to which extender pigments may be added to the intermediate layer. However, there is no disclosure in that reference of the intermediate layer being provided between the substrate sheet and the dye receptor layer with a fluorescent brightener together with a white pigment. There is further no disclosure of a specific embodiment comprising a combination of a chlorinated polypropylene resin as the specific material for the intermediate layer with the white pigment and fluorescent brightener.

Since Ito et al. does not disclose the above-claimed features, the Applicant considers the rejection overcome.

In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this

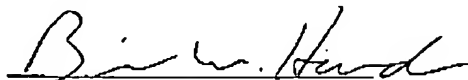
3

application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

March 4, 2005

Date



Attorney for Applicant
Brian W. Hameder
c/o Ladas & Parry LLP
224 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60604
(312) 427-1300
Reg. No. 45613